

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04902 241336Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 DHA-02
AID-05 /063 W
-----074905 241416Z /43

R 2321500ZSRUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5939
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 4902

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, BL
SUBJECT: PROPOSED MEETING OF SOUTHERN CONE AMBASSADORS

1. PRESIDENT BANZER RAISED WITH ME ON JUNE 22 THE PROPOSED MEETING OF PRESIDENTS OF SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES. HE SAID THAT I HAD PROBABLY READ ABOUT THE PROPOSED MEETING IN THE NEWSPAPERS AND THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CLARIFY FOR ME HIS POSITION ON THE IDEA. HE SAID THE PROPOSAL HAD ORIGINATED AMONG THOSE SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY INTERNAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS AND ADVERSE US REACTIONS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE OTHER PRESIDENTS IN A MEETING OF SOUTHERN CONE LEADERS TO FORM A BLOC WHICH WOULD OPPOSE THE US ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE. ACCORDING TO BANZER, HE REPLIED THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ATTEND IF THE NUMBER OF PRESIDENTS INVITED WERE INCREASED TO INCLUDE THOSE NOT IN THE SOUTHERN CONE, THAT THE PURPOSE BE CHANGED FROM A NEGATIVE ONE TO A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE THEME WHICH HE SUGGESTED BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES TO IMPROVE THE LIFE OF
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THE POOR IN SOUTH AMERICA. HE SAID THAT HIS VIEWS DID NOT SET WELL WITH THE ORIGINATORS OF THE IDEA AND IN ANY EVENT IT NOW APPEARS TO BE A DEAD PROPOSAL.

2. PRESIDENT BANZER SAID THAT HE WISHED TO DISTINGUISH BOLIVIA FROM SOME OF ITS NEIGHBORS IN BOTH THE CONDUCT OF DOMESTIC

POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE COUNTRY TO
THE US. AS TO THE FORMER, HE ASSERTED THAT THERE IS NO
HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM IN BOLIVIA AND THUS BOLIVIA WOULD NOT
BE CHARGED WITH VIOLATIONS AS OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN.
FURTHERMORE, HE SAID THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR BOLIVIA TO
MAINTAIN ITS EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH THE US. THE PRESIDENT'S
CONCLUDING REMARK WAS THAT BOLIVIA WISHES TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY
RELATIONS WITH ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORS BUT WISHES TO PUT SOME
DISTANCE BETWEEN ITSELF AND THOSE WHOSE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS
ARE NOT GOOD.
STEDMAN

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Subject: PROPOSED MEETING OF SOUTHERN CONE AMBASSADORS
TAGS: PGOV, BL, XR, PFOR, (BANZER SUAREZ, HUGO)
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